Mount Wachusett Community College

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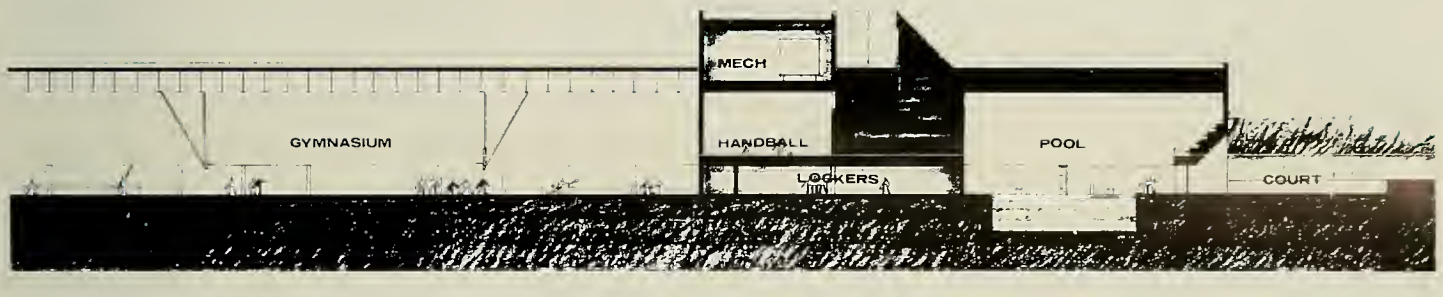
State Approves Field House for New Campus



The architect's drawing shows plans for MWCC's proposed $4 million Field House recently approved by Governor Sargent's Office. The new 385' Field House will include a 132' by 224' gymnasium with TV facilities, two basketball courts, three indoor tennis courts, a track, handball and squash courts, a swimming pool, and facilities for soccer, softball, golf and baseball practices.

The swimming pool, which will be glassed in on one side, is a N.C.A.A. regulation 70' pool. The 60,000 sq. ft. complex will have a seating capacity for 1500, a classroom, faculty offices, and team accomodations including showers and lockers. According to Dean of Administration Richard P. Jeffrey bids will be sought and construction is expected to begin this summer and be completed in 1 to 1 1/2 years depending on availability of materials, labor conditions and other factors.

In addition to the Field House there will be the following lighted outdoor fields: football, baseball, soccer, softball, two basketball courts and eight tennis courts. The hockey team looks forward to the new state skating rink being built in Gardner.

These new facilities will allow the college to offer much more than the present intercollegiate sports. The new program will offer intercollegiate sports, intramural sports, a complete physical education program and a program to include the development of leisure time activities.

The college believes the addition of these programs will be important since much of the education received by a student takes place outside of the classroom. New offerings of this type and magnitude require additional trained personnel and the college has started to move in this direction since a good deal of planning will be necessary to make maximum use of such a facility when it opens.

FIRST MWCC 10th ANNIVERSARY TV SHOWS FEATURE SPEAKER BARTLEY

Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives David M. Bartley recently visited Mount Wachusett Community College to participate in the first two of series of cable television programs celebrating MWCC's 10th Anniversary.

Before the tapings the Speaker accompanied President Haley and Dean of Administration Richard P. Jeffrey on a tour of the new campus which is now 80% complete. Speaker Bartley stated that the complex and location was one of the best that he has viewed in the Commonwealth. He also mused that it would be a pleasure attending a school like the new MWCC that is away from the hustle and bustle of the large city.

For the first program Speaker Bartley, a former student at Holyoke Community College, joined Dr. Haley and four former Mount Wachusett students in a round table discussion on the impact and benefits of the community college system to the residents of the Commonwealth.

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President Haley and Speaker of the Massachusetts House David Bartley hosted the first cable television program in a series which marks MWCC's 10th Anniversary. Joining Dr. Haley and Speaker Bartley were former MWCC students (left to right) Nanette Fournier, Karen Gifford, Gardner Mayor Stephen Erickson, John Reilly, and Phyllis Hanno (not pictured).

Drama Club Looks Forward to New Campus Fine Arts Complex

The Drama Club of Mount Wachusett Community College recently presented two one-act plays by the contemporary American playwrite Edward Albee. These plays were especially noteworthy because they were entirely produced and directed by the students of the club amid the less than ideal surroundings of the student lounge. When the house lights went out the capacity audience was treated to exciting well-acted and well-directed performance of Albee's "The Sandbox" and "Zoo Story".

The first play "The Sandbox" belongs properly to the theatre of the absurd and is an amusing and incisive satire on many aspects of American life: the family, attitudes toward aging and death, the generations, and perhaps most importantly, the theatre itself. The play was acted by Mount students Bonnie Baer, Patty Coleman, Charlie Fost, Bill Breslin, and Mike Scibarassi, and directed by Helena Antilla.

The more sinister "Zoo Story" involves only two actors, sitting on a park bench but the rising tension of this one-act turns into nightmare and ends in murder. The "Zoo Story" was acted by Steve Lee who gave an outstanding performance and Dean Vallis. Joseph Melanson directed.

The continuing interest in serious drama at the Mount will lead to more productions and related activities in the spring term of this year and will provide the nucleus for the modern theatre facilities planned at the new campus.

But even without these facilities the Mount has over the past few years produced a number of fine shows and plays. Among these are "The Fantastics", "The Crucible", "Alakazan", a musical written and produced by Professor Mickey Bent, "Waiting for Lefty", and most recently the two one-act plays by Albee. The future of theatre looks healthy at Mount Wachusett.

The second phase of construction will begin with the award of the contract for the fine arts complex. This $2 million building will project in an easterly direction from the present main building and will be contiguous to the south and east parking lots. This complex will indeed house one of the most dramatically beautiful and comprehensive fine arts centers in the New England area.

The main entrance to the building leads directly to a spacious bi-level art gallery/exhibition hall. This impressive lobby will provide a most suitable area for exhibiting the College's art collection, student works and items of community interest.

From the right of the exhibition one enters the beautiful and imposing little theatre. With an areana-like configuration, the theatre will have a seating capacity of from 450—550, depending upon the type of performance. The theatre is provided with a hydraulic-lift so that productions may utilize one of three stages or combinations thereof: proscenium arch, thrust and theatre in-the-round.

The beauty of the theatre is accentuated by panelled walls with vertical slats and red-fabric seats. Behind the stage is a 40-foot high property workshop and storage area. Clearly a facility of this nature will afford the College and community a magnificent physical setting for dramatic and musical productions of first quality, for symphony orchestras, for distinguished visitors, chorales, movies and community meetings.

To the left of the main exhibition hall will be a music rehersal hall and the three studios which support our art program: studio 1 (drawing and painting), studio 2 (ceramics and sculpture) and studio 3 (crafts: jewelry, weaving and print-making).

On the lower level of the building will be a classroom, dressing rooms, practice and instrument storage rooms, a "green" room and a costume workshop. Five faculty offices are also included in the building.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE BOOSTS STUDENT'S EARNING POWER

EDITORS NOTE: The December issue of MWCC's student newspaper "The Harbinger" presented a new supplement "Mount Wachusett After Dark". "MAD" was the result of the student's efforts in Professor Gordon Massingham's Evening School English course. The following article by George R. Lystila appeared in the first "MAD".

For many years now people and prominent educators have been saying, "go to school if you want to get ahead." This is very beneficial advice. Advice not only for your sense of well being but also for your pocketbook.

Now there is an increased dollar value with an Associate Degree as compared to a high school diploma. This is especially so in this area in local industry. In local industry standard hourly rates and weekly wages are changing rapidly for not only white collar workers but also production workers. For instance, after doing some research I found that over the last ten years the following salarys or wages were paid for production workers.

Weekly Earnings	1960	1965	1967	1971
	81.96	98.74	120.69	126.62
Hourly Rate	2.09	2.45	3.04	3.23

The average hours for the above varies from thirty nine to forty one. This also pertains to individuals who have only twelve years or less in education and are unskilled.

After checking statistical abstracts and job banks on microfilm at the Fitchburg Unemployment Office some interesting information was found. It was found that individuals with an Associates Degree as compared to a high school diploma are being offered as much as thirty-five to fifty dollars more a week. For instance, where there is a job opening for an accountant with experience, and without a degree, he or she would start at ninety or one hundred dollars a week. The same job offered to a college graduate would pay about one hundred fifty dollars.

In addition the jobs open for the individual with the degree is usually a more skillful or managerial type job. Here are some examples of weekly and hourly wages over the last ten years for individuals with an Associate Degree.

Weekly Earnings ($)	1960	1965	1967	1971
	115.00	141.00	177.00	180.00
Hourly Rate	2.60	3.51	4.40	4.50

This shows that the person with the better education gets a higher salary.

Of course this may not always be the case when a person has a trade, such as: Electrician, plumber, or carpenter. Although eventually his education will have to be increased when he reaches his peak on his job.

Here is an abstract taken from a prominent authoritative book on annual incomes of individuals twenty-five years or older. This is broken down to number of years of high school and or two years of college.

YEARS	HIGH SCHOOL		COLLEGE
	1–3	4	2
1960	4367	5183	5997
1965	5161	5946	7348
1967	6529	7907	9229
1971	6769	8148	9397

The above abstract speaks for itself. The college graduate will eventually make a larger income. This is most important in this day and age of forever increasing prices.

Dean of Administration Richard Jeffrey is shown here discussing plans for the new campus with Bonnie Baer during the first in a series of Student Coffee Hours sponsored by President Haley.

D.V.C. PRESENTS ESCAPE ARTIST

BIGELOW

MWCC's Distinguished Visitors Committee is presenting escape artist Norman G. Bigelow. The 23 year old Lunenburg native will be appearing at 7:30 p.m. on February 15 at Gardner High School Auditorium. There is no admission charge and the public is invited.

He began his career at the age of 8 when he escaped from a canvas bag while handcuffed at the bottom of a lake. On the 15th he plans to escape from some extremely difficult situations. In "The Fury of the Flames" Bigelow is handcuffed to a table kneeling over a pile of gunpowder and escapes just as the flame and the danger of being burned alive approaches.

Bigelow is chained and tied to one side of a unit consisting of hinged doors in his "Board of Death" trick. The other side of the door contains 20 sharp knives. He has only three minutes to escape before the doors come together driving the knives into him.

In his final stunt "The Water Torture Cell", described by some as an underwater suicide tank, Bigelow is bound and submerged upside down.

The escape artist performs all of his tricks in full view of the audience and he challenges local police officials to bring forth their own handcuffs and straight jackets to test his ability.

The Distinguished Visitors Committee is designed to provide the college and the greater Gardner Community with programs from the areas of Art, Music, Drama, Dance, Theatre, Political Science, Medical Sciences, and Contemporary Issues. These and other events are intended to expose the college and community to additional sources of education, enrichment, and controversy.

The DVC had its origin as a Presidents' Hour under the auspices of several faculty representatives. Eventually members of the community were invited to become members of the committee.

The present Distinguished Visitors Committee is composed of three faculty members, seven student representatives, and two members of the community. The college is indeed pleased to have the new Mayor, Stephen Erickson, as a new member of the committee.

TV Show

(continued from page 1)

The student panel consisted of Gardner's new Mayor Stephen Erickson, Karen Gifford an employee of Digital Equipment, John Reilly an electronics technician at Fort Devens, and Nanette Fournier of the Westminster Police Department.

Each student had an opportunity to discuss the role MWCC played in the formulation of his and her career. The Speaker was high in his praise of the community college system and commented that the colleges allow many students like himself, who did not have enough money to attend more expensive schools, to receive a quality education.

The second program featured Speaker Bartley, Dr. Haley, and State Representative Raymond LaFontaine. The men discussed the college's history, evolution, and role in the greater Gardner community. The Speaker was high in his praise of Representative LaFontaine for his dogged persistance at the State House to assure that Mount Wachusett would have the necessary funds to complete its programmed new campus construction.

MWCC's 10th Anniversary television series will continue in February with an hour program saluting the College's Business Technology Division. In each Successive month one of MWCC's four other academic divisions will be spotlighted.

Campus Notes

MWCC President Dr. Arthur F. Haley was recently elected as President of the Greater Gardner Chamber of Commerce at its annual meeting.

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Dean of Faculty John H. Bassett has announced the appointment of Associate Professor Clement Trudeau as the new Director of the Summer School.

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Chairman of the Division of Humanities Samuel O'Neil and Professors Sylvia Miner and Otto Eckardt have returned to MWCC after their first semester sabatical. Professors Philip Leasure, Theodore Filteau, Gerald O'Brien and Guy Turcotte have been granted sabatical leaves during the spring semester.

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Due to an oversight the Human Development Module utilized by MWCC for freshman orientation described in the October Chronicle failed to credit its developers Richard Delprete of North Shore Community College and Pearl Waterhouse of Bunker Hill Community College.

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Law Enforcement Curriculum Coordinator Robert Willhauck and instructor Robert Riedl accompanied 40 L.E. students to Montreal over the semester break. The group spent a morning at the Montreal Police Department Headquarters and an afternoon at the MPD Academy.

According to professor Willhauck the MPD is unique because it has recently incorporated 29 cities and towns into its area of jurisdiction and has grown to 6000 members. The Department discussed the problems of integration with the students and provided them with displays, demonstrations, and lunch.

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This years 10–23 Radio Club Award for the outstanding MWCC electronics student went to Thomas J. Brogan Jr. (left) of Gardner. Frank Parrish (right) of the Club makes the award as Dr. Haley looks on.

Tom, who maintained the highest academic record of an electronics student during the past two years, plans to attend Lowell Technical Institute in September.

WINTER SPORTS TEAMS 73-74

Basketball team. Front row left to right: Norman Wagner, Larry Katon, George Fiske, Gary Decker, Charlie Sardelis, Bill Nunnally, Dave Sevigny. Standing left to right: Manager, Joe Halonen, John Proctor, Bill MacIntosh, Gary Martines, Karl Maki, Eric Johnson, Mike O'Neil, Butch Praplaski, Glenn Bizzotto and Coach Marc Eisenstock.

Hockey team. Front row left to right: Gene Beauregard, Rusty Snow, Ted Ouellette, Joe Ruth, Bob Ader, Matt Christenson, Kevin Kennedy, Ed Couillard. Second row left to right: John Ham, manager, Bill Graves, Joe Melanson, Wayne Ronn, John Fitzgerald, Ron Reed, Ron Bryold, Tom Lane, Gary Girouard, Bernie Cote, Bill Breslin, Don Marsh, David Halvorsen, Coach: John Armstrong, assistant coach.

Cheerleaders. Kneeling left to right: Sandy Ponusky, Linda Lincourt, Lynn Baker. Standing Beth Bell and with arms extended Nancy Malaughney.

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Impossible as it is to escape the energy crisis, MWCC has taken several steps to lessen its effects. Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Ernest Rahaim reports that he expects the college to cut back its fuel consumption 30 to 35 percent this year.

During the semester break the Pearl Street and Downtown Campuses were closed. In addition plastic has been placed around the Elm Street Campuses windows, a close eye has been kept on the boiler's water temperature and all the thermostats have been adjusted to maintain proper room temperature.

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